



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

7 FT. LAUDERDALE PREDATORS ARRESTED BY ICE AND BSO

-Man convicted of lewd and lascivious molestation against his own daughter among the arrested-

FT. LAUDERDALE –A 43-year-old citizen of Mexico convicted of lewd and lascivious molestation against his own daughter was one of seven predators arrested here Thursday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents and officers of the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO).

Adan Padron was convicted on Nov. 10, 2003 in a Broward County court for the sexual crime. He was subsequently sentenced to 15 years sex offender probation. Padron has been placed into removal proceedings for being in violation of Section 237 (a) (2) (A) (i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). He now faces the revocation of his lawful permanent residency (LPR) status.

"Any crime against a child is appalling, especially one that is sexual in nature," said Jesus Torres, special agent-in-charge of ICE in Miami. "It is for that reason that we will not cease in our efforts to identify and arrest monsters like Padron who leave an irreparable mark in the lives of our vulnerable children."

Among the others arrested were German Fuentes, Jose Perez-Leiva, Patrick Taylor, Stephen Roberts, Jorge Viejo and Octavio Velez. All are convicted predators representing the following countries: Ecuador, Jamaica, El Salvador and Mexico.

Those arrested are in ICE custody at the Krome Detention Center in South Florida awaiting the outcome of their cases.

These arrests are part of a nationwide initiative known as Operation Predator. Operation Predator protects our children from sexual predators, including those who travel across continents to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also a priority for ICE. Since the initiative was launched in July of 2003, there have been more than 6,000 individuals arrested nationwide, over 274 of which have been arrested in Florida.

ICE encourages anyone who wants to report suspicious activity of suspected child predators and suspicious activity through our toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.